

# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, Gladys C. Baisa will retire this year from the Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO) after 36 years of dedicated service, 21 of which she served as its Executive Director; and

**WHEREAS**, Gladys C. Baisa was raised on the plantation camps in Maui, graduated from Maui High School, and in 1960, graduated as a practical nurse from the St. Francis School of Nursing; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1967, Gladys C. Baisa furthered her education at the accounting program at Maui Technical School, worked at Maui Memorial Medical Center in the billing department, and two years later, joined MEO as its fiscal officer; and

**WHEREAS**, Gladys C. Baisa made a bold decision by moving to a new organization, and recognized a great opportunity for growth and a chance to make a difference; and

**WHEREAS**, after serving the agency for 15 years, Gladys C. Baisa became its executive director, where she built a fiscal department with an impeccable record for accountability and audit excellence; and

**WHEREAS**, Gladys C. Baisa initiated numerous innovative and far-reaching community programs, and under her guidance, MEO became one of the largest human service non-profit organizations in Maui County; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2003, the National Community Action Partnership presented MEO with its inaugural “Award of Excellence in Community Action,” making MEO only one of four agencies to receive this honor out of more than 1,100 organizations nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, Gladys C. Baisa will be remembered at MEO and throughout the community for her outstanding leadership, enthusiasm, compassion, and dedication she gave selflessly to make a difference in the lives of many; and

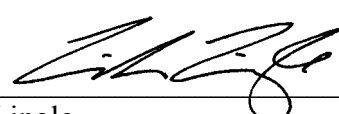
**WHEREAS**, on January 14, 2006, Gladys C. Baisa will be honored with a retirement celebration at the Binhi At Ani Filipino Community Center,

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE**, Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, do hereby proclaim January 14, 2006, as

# **GLADYS C. BAISA DAY**

in Hawai‘i, and on behalf of its residents, express my sincere appreciation for her many years of devotion to the Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

**Done** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai‘i, this eleventh day of January 2006.

  
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Linda Lingle  
Governor, State of Hawai‘i